

## Message Text

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R 202235Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 104042 ACTION ATHENS BELGRADE BRUSSELS  
COPENHAGEN HELSINKI LONDON MADRID OSLO PARIS ROME STOCKHOLM  
THE HAGUE VIENNA INFO ANKARA BUCHAREST BUDAPEST LISBON MOSCOW  
SOFIA WARSAW 17 MAY 1974. QUOTE:

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP, ECE

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ECE MEMBER COUNTRIES IN PREPARAION  
FOR WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE, GENEVA, MAY 29-JUNE 1

SUMMARY: UN SYG FOR WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE (EX-  
MEXICAN FONMIN CARRILLO FLORES) AND ECE SECRETARIAT ARE  
HOLDING CONSULTATION MEETING WITH ECE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS  
GENEVA MAY 29-JUNE 1, AS ONE OF FIVE SIMILAR REGIONAL  
CONSULTATIONS, TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR WORLD POPULATION  
CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN BUCHAREST AUGUST 19-30. CERTAIN  
POSTS REQUESTED CONSULT WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS RE PLANS FOR  
MEETING AND US IDEAS. END SUMMARY.

1. AGENDA FOR ECE MEMBER MEETING, WHICH IS SAME AS FOR  
WORLD CONFERENCE, CONSISTS OF:

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1. RECENT DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS.

2. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT-
3. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POPULATION, RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT.
4. POPULATION, FAMILY AND HUMAN WELFARE.
5. WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION.

2. ECOSOC RESOLUTION DIRECTS UN SYG TO DRAFT WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION FOR CONSIDERATION AT BUCHAREST. DRAFT PREPARED AND DISTRIBUTED TO GOVERNMENTS FOR ECE

MEETING.

3. USG REGARDS SECRETARIAT DRAFT AS GOOD BUT NOT GOOD ENOUGH IN SUBSTANCE AND AS MORE A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY THAN A PLAN OF ACTION IN FORM. US DEL AT MARCH POPCOM TRIED TO OBTAIN ACCEPTANCE OF STRONGER DRAFT MORE CLEARLY STATED AS A PLAN FOR ACTION. US DRAFT ATTRACTED VARYING DEGREES OF SUPPORT FROM MANY MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY ASIANS, SOME EUROPEANS, AND VARYING DEGREES OF OPPOSITION FROM OTHERS. NOT ENOUGH SUPPORT TO OBTAIN DESIRED CHANGE IN FORMAT.

4. ATTITUDES OF EUROPEAN DELEGATIONS POPCOM TOWARD SECRETARIAT AND US DRAFTS: UK DEL SAID PREFERRED US FORMULATION BUT DID NOT SUPPORT IT, APPARENTLY THROUGH DESIRE TO AVOID CONTROVERSY WITH MORE CONSERVATIVE LA AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES. SWEDISH DEL SIMILAR ATTITUDE. CANADIAN OBSERVER GENERALLY SUPPORTIVE. NETHERLANDS, DANISH DELS AND FRG OBSERVER SUPPORTED US DRAFT (EXCEPT FOR DANISH OBJECTION TO CONCEPT OF GOALS FOR DC'S). FRANCE OPPOSED US DRAFT, ESPECIALLY GOALS FOR DC'S, BUT APPARENTLY AGREEABLE TO SECRETARIAT DRAFT. USSR OPPOSED TO CONCEPT POPULATION GOALS, PARTICULARLY FOR DC'S.

5. WE BELIEVE SECRETARIAT IN DRAFTING PLAN OF ACTION HAS GIVEN PRIMARY ATTENTION TO AVOIDING CONFRONTATION WITH SOME SOUTH AMERICANS AND TO OBTAINING CONSENSUS OF NEAR UNANIMITY. FOR THIS REASON, DRAFT HAS BEEN SET AT LEVEL OF ACTION BELOW THAT WE BELIEVE MOST COUNTRIES OF ASIA, SEVERAL OF LATIN AMERICA, A FEW IN AFRICA, AND MOST IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WESTERN EUROPE WOULD SUPPORT AT BUCHAREST. WE BELIEVE UNANIMITY NOT NECESSARY ON ALL ELEMENTS OF PLAN OF ACTION AND NOT DESIRABLE AT COST OF TOO LOW COMMON DENOMINATOR.

6. OUR PURPOSE AT ECE WILL BE TO:

A. OBTAIN SUPPORT OF AS MANY COUNTRIES AS POSSIBLE FOR GENERALLY STRENGTHENING AND TIGHTENING SECRETARIAT

DRAFT, INCLUDING SOME STRONGER PROVISIONS (SEE TALKING POINTS BELOW).

B. KEEP ALIVE IDEA OF BETTER FORMAT FOR PLAN OF ACTION, BUT WITHOUT PRESSING SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS.

C. DEVELOP CONCEPT FOR BRIEFER, CLEARER PLAN THAN CALLED FOR IN RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT POPULATION COMMISSION WHICH INDIA SPONSORED WITH UK AND NETHERLANDS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: USING TALKING POINTS BELOW, CONSULT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED. CABLE REACTIONS, COPY GENEVA.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED TALKING POINTS:

1. WE ARE INTERESTED IN VIEWPOINTS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON WHAT SHOULD AND CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED AT GENEVA AND BUCHAREST MEETINGS.

2. WOULD HOPE DISCUSSIONS ON FUNCTIONAL SUBJECTS (POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND FAMILY) WOULD THOROUGHLY EXAMINE POPULATION FACTS, IMPLICATIONS OF POPULATION GROWTH, MIGRATION AND URBANIZATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER SUBJECTS AND EFFECT OF THESE SUBJECTS ON POPULATION GROWTH.

3. US IS CONVINCED THAT CONTINUED POPULATION GROWTH LDCS AT PRESENT HIGH RATES TENDS TO RETARD ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INTENSIFY OTHER PROBLEMS, AND ADVERSELY AFFECT THE QUALITY OF LIFE.

4. WE ARE AWARE OF VIEW OF SOME LDC GOVERNMENTS THAT MORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RAPID ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WILL SOLVE THEIR POPULATION PROBLEM, AND EFFORTS TO SLOW POPULATION GROWTH ARE NOT NEEDED. WHILE THIS IS A SENSITIVE ISSUE WHICH EACH COUNTRY WILL NEED TO DECIDE ON ITS OWN, WE FEEL STRONGLY THAT BOTH ARE NECESSARY AND COMPLEMENTARY, NEITHER A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE OTHER.

5. BUCHAREST CONFERENCE OFFERS SINGULAR OPPORTUNITY TO MOUNT GLOBAL ATTACK ON POPULATION PROBLEMS. TO BE A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE, SHOULD AVOID TENDENCY TO CONFINES ITSELF TO MERE FORUM FOR DISCUSSION AND DEBATE WITH TEMPTATION TO SEEK SOLUTIONS FOR ALL THE WORLD'S ECONOMIC ILLS UNDER THE GUISE OF TREATING THE POPULATION PROBLEM.

6. HOPE PLAN OF ACTION WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO SERIOUS

EFFECTS THAT RAPID POPULATION GROWTH HAS ON FAMILIES, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN, IN MANY COUNTRIES; ON DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND NUTRITION, AVAILABILITY OF EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT.

7. SUPPORT PROVISION NOW IN PLAN OF ACTION THAT GOVERNMENTS WILL ASSURE ALL PEOPLE BY END OF UNDD II AVAILABILITY OF FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES TO REALIZE BASIC HUMAN RIGHT TO HAVE INFORMATION, EDUCATION, AND MEANS TO DETERMINE FREELY AND RESPONSIBLY THE NUMBER AND SPACING

OF CHILDREN. "RESPONSIBLY" SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED TO MEAN TAKING INTO ACCOUNT WELFARE OF OTHER CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY

8. ALSO, SUPPORT PROVISION NOW IN PLAN OF ACTION ASKING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WITH HIGH BIRTH RATES TO SET GOAL FOR REDUCTION BY 5 TO 10 POINTS PER 1000 BY 1985, BUT BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE 10 POINTS. (EXAMPLE, FROM 40/1000 TO 30/1000.)

9. THINK IT ALSO DESIRABLE THAT PLAN SHOULD CALL FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO ATTAIN REPLACEMENT LEVELS OF FERTILITY IN 2 OR 3 DECADES. (THIS MEANS AVERAGE OF 2 CHILDREN PER REPRODUCTIVE FAMILY. EVEN AFTER ATTAINMENT OF THIS LEVEL, POPULATION OF TYPICAL LDC WILL GROW ABOUT 60 YEARS MORE AND LEVEL OFF AT 250 PERCENT OF PRESENT SIZE. IF NOT ATTAINED FOR 3 DECADES, WILL LEVEL OFF AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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300-350 PERCENT PRESENT SIZE. THUS, IMPORTANT THAT ALL COUNTRIES REACH REPLACEMENT LEVEL ASAP TO CURB ENORMOUS FUTURE GROWTH.) SIMILARLY, PLAN SHOULD CALL FOR DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO SET GOAL TO ATTAIN REPLACEMENT LEVEL OF FERTILITY BY 1985.

10. USG RECOGNIZES THAT POPULATION POLICIES ARE MATTERS FOR EACH SOVEREIGN COUNTRY TO DECIDE. NEVERTHELESS, BECAUSE OF EFFECTS OF POPULATION GROWTH ON OTHER COUNTRIES IN HIGHLY INTERDEPENDENT WORLD, AGREEMENT ON OVERALL GOALS FOR REDUCING WORLD GROWTH HIGHLY DESIRABLE. WE PROPOSE DROP FROM PRESENT 2 PERCENT PER YEAR TO 1.7 PERCENT BY 1985, INCLUDING LDC DROP FROM AVERAGE 2.5 PERCENT TO 2 PERCENT AND DCS FROM 1 PERCENT TO .6 PERCENT. THESE GOALS ARE FEASIBLE SINCE 30 LDCS CONTAINING 75 PERCENT OF LDC POPULATION HAVE ALREADY SET SIMILAR GOALS.

11. PLAN OF ACTION SHOULD BE STATED IN FORM MORE USEFUL TO GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS GUIDES FOR POLICY AND ACTION. PRESENT DRAFT IS NOT VERY SUITABLE SINCE IT IS MORE A DEMOGRAPHIC STUDY THAN PLAN FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION. APPRECIATE VIEWS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON

HOW TO IMPROVE.

12. DO NOT EXPECT ECE MEETING WILL ATTEMPT TO REDRAFT PLAN. HOPE, HOWEVER, WILL RESULT IN (1) REPORT RECOMMENDING STRENGTHENING FINAL PLAN OF ACTION BY INCLUDING POINTS IN PARAS. 7 TO 10 ABOVE AND (2) CONSENSUS ON IMPORTANCE OF STRONG, EFFECTIVE BUT FLEXIBLE PLAN WHICH IN FORM WILL BE CONCISE, READABLE AND CAPABLE OF IMPLEMENTATION AND IN

SUBSTANCE WILL BOTH TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE COMPLEXITIES AND NATIONAL DIVERSITIES AND PROVIDE A GUIDE FOR SOUND NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTION.

13. FYI: U.S. REPRESENTATIVE AT SUBJECT MEETING WILL BE PHILANDER P. CLAXTON, JR., SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY FOR POPULATION MATTERS. ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD, IF POSSIBLE, INFORM DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF NAMES OF THEIR HOST COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES.

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